AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS

1. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** A pressure pad comprising at least two sets of alternately inflatable cells, the cells having lengths extending linearly transversely along the pad and held in place on a pad base by:

   a. loop straps fixed to the pad base and retaining the central region of the length of each cell **against movement**, and

   b. fasteners releasably retaining the ends of each cell to the pad base at a distance from the central region of the cell,

   such that each cell is tensioned along the cell's length, with the cell's length being held in a bent state by the loop straps and fasteners with the cell's ends offset from the cell's central region.

2-15. **(CANCELED)**

16. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** A pressure pad including:

   a. a pad base;

   b. at least two sets of alternately inflatable cells atop the pad base, the cells having lengths extending between opposing cell ends across the pad base;

   c. loops extending about the cells and restraining the cells to the pad base **against movement**, the loops being spaced from the cell ends; and

   d. fasteners at the cell ends, the fasteners being affixed to the pad base;

   wherein:

   (1) the cells are tensioned along their lengths, and

   (2) the loops and the fasteners bend the lengths of the cells into curved shapes between the loops and the fasteners.

17. **(CANCELED)**

18. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The pressure pad of claim 16 wherein the loops extending about one of the cells have central axes which are offset from a linear axis extending between the fasteners of the cell.

19. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The pressure pad of claim 16 wherein the loops extending about one of the cells have central axes which are offset from a linear axis extending between the fasteners of the cell, the offset extending in a direction oriented at least substantially perpendicularly to the linear axis extending between the fasteners of the cell.

20. **(CANCELED)**

21. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** A pressure pad as claimed in claim 1 wherein the cells are adjacently arrayed such that the bent cells are interfit, with the bend of each cell receiving, and/or being received within, the bend of an adjacent cell.

22. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** A pressure pad as claimed in claim 16 wherein the bends of the cells receive adjacent cells therein.

23. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** A pressure pad including:

a. a pad base;

b. at least two sets of alternately inflatable cells atop the pad base, the cells having lengths extending across the pad base, wherein the lengths of the cells are restrained **against movement**:

(1) at or near the middles of their lengths **by loops extending from the pad base about the cells**, and

(2) at or near the ends of their lengths,

to tension the cells along their lengths, with the lengths of the cells being bent between the middles and ends of their lengths.

24. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The pressure pad of claim 23 wherein:

a. the sets of cells have their lengths adjacently arrayed, and

b. at least some of the cells have adjacent cells situated within their bends.

25. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The pressure pad of claim 23 wherein the bends of the cells rest in a common plane.

26. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The pressure pad of claim 16 wherein the bends of the cells rest in a common plane.

27. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** A pressure pad including:

a. a pad base;

b. at least two sets of alternately inflatable elongated cells atop the pad base, the cells having lengths extending in tension across the pad base, wherein ~~the cells~~:

(1) **each cell has a central portion spaced from the ends of its length, wherein the central portion:**

ii. is restrained against movement to the pad base by a loop extending from the pad base; and

iii. is offset from an axis extending between ends of the cell's length,

(2) **the cells** curve along their lengths, and

~~(2)~~ **(3)** **the cells** are arrayed in interfitting relationship wherein each cell:

(a) receives an adjacent cell within its curve, and/or

(b) is received within the curve of an adjacent cell.

28. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The pressure pad of claim 27 wherein

a. the cells, when inflated, are restrained to the pad base in the curved shape, and

b. the cells, when inflated, assume a different shape when no longer restrained to the pad base.

29. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The pressure pad of claim 27 wherein the curves of the cells are aligned along a common plane.

30. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The pressure pad of claim 29 wherein the pad base is aligned in a plane parallel to the plane of the curves of the cells.

31. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The pressure pad of claim 27 wherein:

a. each cell has a central portion spaced from the ends of its length, and

b. the central portion has a central axis offset from a linear axis extending between the ends.

32-33. **(CANCELED)**

34. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The pressure pad of claim 23 wherein different cells are bent to different degrees between the middles and ends of their lengths, with the bent cells being oriented along a common plane parallel to the pad base.

35. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** The pressure pad of claim 23 wherein:

~~a. the lengths of the cells are restrained at or near the middles of their lengths; and~~

~~b.~~ the lengths of the cells are restrained at or near the ends of their lengths by fasteners affixing the cells to the pad base.

36. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** The pressure pad of ~~claim 35~~ **claim 23** wherein each cell's length entirely extends between the fasteners at the cell ends, such that the lengths of the cells terminate in the fasteners.

37. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The pressure pad of claim 16 wherein each cell's length entirely extends between the fasteners at the cell ends, such that the lengths of the cells terminate in the fasteners.

38. **(PREVIOUSLY PRESENTED)** The pressure pad of claim 27 wherein the lengths of the cells terminate in fasteners restraining the cells to the pad base, with the lengths of the cells being tensioned between the fasteners.

39. **(CURRENTLY AMENDED)** The pressure pad of claim 38 wherein midsections of the cells are restrained to the pad base by loops extending about the ~~cells.~~ **cells.**